

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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FORM NO. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT <b>DENVER</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-11-53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2-12, 28; 3-2-53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div> <b>eg</b>
TITLE <b>THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES, 1937-1939</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

**NOPSIS OF FACTS:**

MORRIS LOUIS APPELMAN, upon arrival in Manila in the latter part of 1936, attended a meeting at the Chinese YMCA and advocated a boycott of Japan. As a result of this talk, he was contacted by VICENTE LAVA, who later recruited APPELMAN into the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP). APPELMAN was assigned to a university or professional group and elected treasurer of that CPP group. The CPP leaders, during 1937 through 1939, were VICENTE LAVA, and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] attempted to inject pro-USSR feeling in CPP. The CPP endeavored to aid the economic condition of Philippine peasants. The CPP was under the guidance of the Communist Party, USA. JAMES ALLEN, of the Communist Party, USA, while in Manila inspecting the CPP, expelled APPELMAN from the Communist movement. MORRIS APPELMAN furnished information on VICENTE LAVA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], RUTH LAVA, [REDACTED]  
VISHRU GOKHALE, JAMES ALLEN, wa. Sol Auerbach,  
ALFONSO SYCIP, [REDACTED] JOSE MARCELLO  
CONCEPCION, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], CORNELIUS VANDERBILT STARR, [REDACTED]  
and HERNANDO ABAYA.

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DETAILS:

At Denver, Colorado

On February 12, 1953 MORRIS LOUIS APPELMAN furnished the following information regarding his knowledge of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) during the years 1937 through 1939.

APPELMAN'S INTRODUCTION TO THE CPP

Soon after APPELMAN's arrival in Manila in late 1936, he secured employment as an insurance agent with the Elizalde Company, which is a part of the U. S. Life Insurance Company. APPELMAN stated he secured this position through [REDACTED]

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APPELMAN recalled reading an article in one of the Manila newspapers that there was to be a meeting held at the Chinese YMCA in Manila regarding Chinese and Japanese relations. On his own accord, APPELMAN attended the meeting, and noted that he was the only American present. He gave a speech lauding the efforts of the Chinese people to establish economic stability, and urged the boycott of Japan. APPELMAN related that as a result of his talk and because he was an American, he received a tumultuous applause. At this meeting, APPELMAN met ALFONSO SYCIP, a Chinese who is president of the China Chamber of Commerce. SYCIP then introduced APPELMAN to VICENTE LAVA, who is described as a professor of chemistry at the University of the Philippines (U of P).

APPELMAN had many discussions with LAVA, and was invited by LAVA to join the Communist Party of the Philippines, which he did. APPELMAN was assigned to a branch of the CPP which included a professional or university class of people who held their meetings at the U of P.

After a few meetings, APPELMAN was elected treasurer of this group, and this was the only position he ever held in the CPP during the years, 1937 through 1939.

CPP APPROACH TO PEOPLE

APPELMAN related that the main purpose and aim of the CPP was to improve the economic conditions of the peasants in the Philippines. APPELMAN recalled that JESUS LAVA, a brother of VICENTE LAVA, wrote an essay entitled, "Economic Analysis of Philippine Peasant". APPELMAN

stated that in view of the fact that he never was assigned to any of the "workers" or "peasants" groups or sections of the CPP, he is not aware of the manner or approach that was made to the "workers" or "peasants" to recruit them into the Communist movement. APPELMAN related that in view of the fact that the majority of the citizens of the Philippines are Catholics, that no criticism was ever directed toward religion by the leaders of the CPP to his knowledge.

#### THE CPP MEMBERSHIP

APPELMAN stated that he could not guess at the membership of the CPP during those years, as he was only aware of approximately ten or fifteen individuals who were members of the CPP. He stated that most of his efforts in the CPP were directed to the small intellectual group who were members of the group of which he was treasurer, and those individuals who later attended book reviews and discussions at the waffle shop named "The Ivory Tower".

#### CPP ACTIVITY REGARDING THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR

APPELMAN related that some type of a committee was organized in Manila and was not entirely controlled or dominated by the CPP. He does not now recall the name of this committee. This committee was organized and directed by an American businessman named WILLIAM F. BABCOCK. APPELMAN stated that BABCOCK was not a CPP member, but was a CPP sympathizer. APPELMAN recalled that BABCOCK was friendly to the Spanish Loyalist Consul at Manila at that time. APPELMAN recalled that BABCOCK knew several of the CPP members. EDGAR SNOW stayed at Babcock's house at one time when he was in Manila. BABCOCK adopted a Spanish child during the Spanish Civil War and paid for the support of that child in Spain. BABCOCK's wife was named POLLY, who later worked for the YWCA in New York or New Jersey.

APPELMAN stated he thinks BABCOCK presently resides in Princeton, New Jersey.

APPELMAN stated that many individuals, including himself, contributed large sums of money to this committee to aid the Loyalist forces in Spain.

#### CPP LEADERSHIP

APPELMAN related that he didn't know enough about the CPP leadership except VICENTE LAVA. APPELMAN stated that LAVA was a true

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Marxist, and appeared to be a good leader of the CPP among professional groups. APPELMAN stated that [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

#### CPP FINANCIAL CONDITION

APPELMAN related that he recalls that a collection of dues and other donations for the CPP were very small. For those who could afford to pay dues, such as himself, APPELMAN related that the monthly dues were approximately the same as the dues for the Communist Party, USA, i.e., 5% or 10% of the monthly income of the member.

APPELMAN stated he suspected that the CPP must have secured funds from either the Communist Party, USA, or directly from the USSR in order to pay those individuals working full time for the CPP and to finance certain CPP propaganda efforts in Manila.

#### CPP CONNECTION WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

When APPELMAN arrived at Manila, he was not immediately contacted by any members of the CPP. APPELMAN explained that when he left the United States in the latter part of 1936 to go to China, he had been instructed to drop any Communist Party, USA connection or activity by the specific instructions of EARL BROWDER. When he learned that he could not land in Shanghai, he decided to go to Manila and await instructions from the Communist Party, USA. APPELMAN stated that he did not now recall how he communicated with the Communist Party, USA, but that apparently, he had received some word to remain in Manila.

APPELMAN stated his past activities in the Communist movement apparently were made known to VICENTE LAVA, in view of the fact that LAVA appeared to be very open with him in their discussions of the Communist movement. Later on, JAMES ALLEN, whose real name is SOL FUERBACH, came to Manila for the purpose of inspecting the Communist Party of the Philippines.

APPELMAN learned from his discussions with LAVA and ALLEN that the CPP was under the sponsorship of the Communist Party, USA. (More information regarding APPELMAN's contacts with ALLEN is reported below.)

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APPELMAN recalled that on several occasions, both of these individuals had attempted to inject pro-USSR sympathies into the CPP.

MORRIS APPELMAN'S EXPULSION FROM THE CPP

In the latter part of 1938 or early 1939, JAMES ALLEN, who described himself as an American author, contacted MORRIS APPELMAN in Manila. APPELMAN stated he knew ALLEN in New York City in connection with the Communist Party, USA. APPELMAN stated that JAMES ALLEN was a pen name or a Communist Party name used by ALLEN, and that his real name was SOL AUERBACH.

ALLEN told APPELMAN he had learned that APPELMAN had not defended the USSR in discussions in the CPP and other groups in relation to the USSR-Finish war. APPELMAN stated he told ALLEN that was probably true, as he personally opposed the policies of the USSR in its invasion of Finland. After several hours of argument and discussion, ALLEN told APPELMAN he should leave the Philippines immediately and return to the United States. APPELMAN refused to do so, and wrote a letter of explanation to EARL BROWDER regarding the arguments and discussions he had with JAMES ALLEN. ALLEN threatened that if APPELMAN would not return to the United States, he, ALLEN, would see that the CPP and the Communist Party, USA, would label APPELMAN as "an enemy of the working class".

APPELMAN learned a few weeks after his meeting with ALLEN from VICENTE LAVA, that ALLEN had attempted to so label APPELMAN in Manila, but LAVA had been successful in not publishing APPELMAN's expulsion from the CPP and the labeling him as "an enemy of the working class".

APPELMAN stated that he later learned an article appeared in the Daily Worker, an East Coast Communist newspaper which accused APPELMAN of stealing CPP funds and labeled him as "an enemy of the working class".

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VICENTE LAVA, SR.

APPELMAN related that LAVA was a professor of chemistry at the University of the Philippines, and was the oldest of three brothers. LAVA was one of the leaders of the CPP in the Philippines and had studied Marxism-Leninism. LAVA did not attempt to hide his CPP sympathies, and was generally known at the university for his ideas. VICENTE LAVA was connected in some way with Indusco.

~~RUTH LAVA~~

APPELMAN stated that RUTH was the wife of VICENTE LAVA, and as he recalls, she was an American. APPELMAN stated she was sympathetic to the CPP cause, but that he could not say whether or not she was a member, nor does he recall her participating in any specific activity of the CPP.

VICENTE LAVA, SR.'S CHILDREN

APPELMAN recalled that the LAVAS had

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[REDACTED]

APPELMAN was asked later in the interview if he knew one CARLOS BULOSON. APPELMAN stated he did not recall the name, but felt [REDACTED] APPELMAN stated that if he were furnished a photograph of BULOSON, he might be able to determine whether or not BULOSON is identical with [REDACTED]

✓ VISHNU GOKHALE

APPELMAN stated that this individual was a professor of mathematics at the U of P and was a member of the CPP. GOKHALE was described by APPELMAN as being "individualistic". APPELMAN stated GOKHALE was a very good friend of VICENTE LAVA. APPELMAN stated he has heard that GOKHALE is presently teaching mathematics at Rutgers University in Brunswick, New Jersey.

[REDACTED]

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✓ SOL AUERBACH, wa. JAMES ALLEN

ALLEN had the "cover" of an American author, and was supposed to be in Manila writing a book. ALLEN, whose real name is SOL AUERBACH, told APPELMAN that he was an inspector from the Communist Party, USA. ALLEN stated that his job was to inspect the CPP. ALLEN said the Communist Party, USA, was charged by the Comintern to develop the CPP. APPELMAN stated that ALLEN met with leaders of the CPP before he met with APPELMAN. (More information regarding ALLEN has been reported above.)

ALFONSO SYCIP

APPELMAN stated he knew this individual very well; that SYCIP was the president of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and was a wealthy merchant. SYCIP had a brother named ALBINO SYCIP who was the president of the Philippine Bank of China. APPELMAN stated that neither of the SYCIP brothers were members of the CPP. ALFONSO was a profound Chinese patriot and apparently cooperated with any Chinese or any other group or committee which was interested in defeating Japan. APPELMAN related that he recalled ALFONSO was killed by the Japanese during the Japanese invasion of the Philippines.

✓ JOSE MARCELO CONCEPCION

APPELMAN stated that CONCEPCION was a leader in the writer group in Manila. CONCEPCION was

APPELMAN related that in 1937 he helped CONCEPCION open up a waffle and tea shop which was known as the Ivory Tower. At this tea shop, APPELMAN related that there were held book reviews and discussions which were attended by many of the members of the CPP and other "left wing", "pro-CPP" individuals. APPELMAN stated that although CONCEPCION was close to the CPP leaders and was apparently sympathetic to the CPP,



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was not a member of this organization. He stated that CONCEPCION later came to the United States and engaged in a tourist business in Los Angeles. APPELMAN stated that a few weeks ago, both he and [redacted] saw a movie entitled, "Storm over Tibet" produced by the Columbia or Republic film studio. APPELMAN stated that both he and his wife recognized JOSE CONCEPCION as a Tibetan Monk in this movie.

[redacted]

CORNELIUS VANDERBILT STARR

APPELMAN stated that STARR was the president of the United States Life Insurance Company, and only knew APPELMAN as an insurance agent. STARR was not aware of APPELMAN's sympathies or connections with the CPP.

[redacted]

✓ HERNANDO ABAYA

APPELMAN stated he recalled that ABAYA was a writer or journalist who did some work for the then Philippine Government Information Service. APPELMAN stated he cannot place ABAYA in the CPP, but recalled that ABAYA was a sympathizer.

MISCELLANEOUS

APPELMAN stated that it was very difficult for him to recall his activities and associations in Manila during the years 1937 through

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1939. He stated he no doubt has forgotten considerable information regarding the individuals with whom he participated in the CPP movement and its activities.

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~~SECRET~~

(DERIVATIVE)

Director, FBI (64-200-239)

10/29/65

Legat, Manila (105-12)(P)

COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES (CPP)  
IS - PHILIPPINES

105-1317-1  
Manila

Re Manila letter 8/4/65.



According to a news article in the "Manila Chronicle" dated 9/18/65, it was reported that six lectures on nationalism were to be given at the Student Union Auditorium at the University of the Philippines (UP). Dr. HORACIO LAVA, Dean of Commerce of Manuel L. Quezon University, was to talk on "Economic Nationalism".

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To date, there has been no confirmation of this possible travel, but in the event further information is received, the Bureau will be notified promptly.

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Director, FBI (64-200-239)

12/1/65

Legat, Manila (105-12) (P)

COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES (CPP)  
IS - PHILIPPINES

Re Manila letter 5/27/65 and Bulet to Paris 5/7/65,  
captioned, "ESPIONAGE AND FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE MATTERS".

A. ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

In the Philippines the CPP is an illegal, subversive organization, being so declared in 1948 by the Philippine Government. It has steadily deteriorated in strength and influence from the period 1950-1953, when some 15,000 armed overt HMB's (People's Liberation Army) with the support of over 50,000 communist sympathizers attempted to overthrow the government, reaching a low point in 1961. There now remain the remnants of the HMB numbering perhaps 125 in scattered fragments, the largest number being in the province of Pampanga, and the substantially larger covert CPP membership centered in Manila.

In 1950 over 100 of the top Communist leadership were arrested and jailed. This First Front leadership was gradually superceded over subsequent years by the Second Front, more concerned with pursuing the parliamentary or legal struggle, and the two fronts were frequently at odds. Since 1961, the CPP leadership has been shifting, and it appears now that members of the Intellectual Group dominate the combined First and Second Front. The main Central Committee from which the Politburo groups ostensibly obtain their authority to run the CPP had not met from 1951 to August, 1964, when reportedly it met and elected a three-man National Secretariat. These three members are reported to be PEDRO TARUC, FRANCISCO LAVA, SR., and HERNANDO ABAYA.

The Office of Special Investigations has reported figures current as of 9/15/65, estimating the total active CPP membership at 2,500, with an additional 4,000 active sympathizers who are the object of an intensive recruitment campaign. Another group of 7,000 would, it is believed,

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follow CPP guidance. By far the greatest number of active members are in the immediate Manila area, and have connections with one of four main groups: Labor, Student, Intellectual, and City Committee. About 700 members are found in the central Luzon provinces, particularly Tarlac and Pampanga. These latter members also offer support to the scattered HMB membership which also centers in Pampanga. A distinction is made between these CPP members and the support received in the rural areas by HMB because of intimidation or simply family ties.

These figures compare with July, 1965 estimate of the C-2 (Intelligence) Philippine Constabulary (PC), which estimates insurgent membership (HMB) at 194, subversive membership (CPP) at 1,032, with mass support of 12,500. The PC believed this estimate as very conservative and pointed out that [redacted] of the CPP, when interrogated last year, estimated total CPP strength (insurgent, subversive and mass support) at 13% of the population, which would give a figure over three million.

#### B. OBJECTIVES AND EFFECTIVENESS

The CPP follows an ostensibly legal or parliamentary line in trying to achieve its objectives, working to infiltrate government and labor organizations, and establish numerous front organizations to influence the masses. The goal of the CPP is the setting up of a communist government in the Philippines but it has to seek this goal through the achievement of numerous intermediate steps, which seek to widen the mass base before going on to an attempt to control the existing organizations of government. Perhaps most important is getting rid of the U. S. presence in the Philippines.

There has been some advance by the CPP since its low point of effectiveness in 1961. There has been active work among youth and student groups, and the establishment of a national front for youth, called the Kabataang Makabayan (KM) in 1964.

The CPP lost its labor group to President MACAPAGAL in 1963, but since then has been working on a national front organization for labor called the Lapiang Manggagawa (LM).

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In the field of rural organization, the Free Farmers Association (Malayang Samahang Magsaska) is being developed by CPP membership, sometimes to the detriment of the HMB.

Working hard in the field of Filipino nationalism, the CPP has effectively exploited a number of difficulties that arose over Philippine-U. S. problems in the U. S. bases. A particularly strong rallying organization which got support from students and intellectuals, as well as labor, has been the Allied Committee to Improve Our Nation (ACTION), which was in the forefront of demonstrations directed against the U. S. Embassy.

#### C. POTENTIAL

The energies of the CPP, as well as those of most Philippine government agencies, have been almost completely engaged in the national elections. FERDINAND MARCOS, the Nacionalista candidate, won the election and will take office 1/1/66. Traditionally, the Nacionalistas have been more hospitable to CPP support, and the latter regularly takes on protective coloring afforded by the "Philippines for the Filipino", and "Filipino First" slogans.

Both MARCOS and [ ] are strongly anti-communist and have given no indication that they will turn against the United States. The general consensus seems to be that the Philippine electorate voted President MACAPAGAL out of office because his administration was not able to bring about any rise in the standard of living or make available to them any more of the good things in life which they believe they are missing. The standard of living has risen substantially over the past year, and unemployment is very high indeed. Unless MARCOS can do something to change the material prospects of the average Filipino, he too will be voted out of office. More than one pundit has written that MARCOS offers the last clear chance for improving the lot of the Filipino, and if he should fail, certainly the promises of a new economic life as offered through communism are just as easily made. Once accepted, it is a path from which it is most difficult to turn back.

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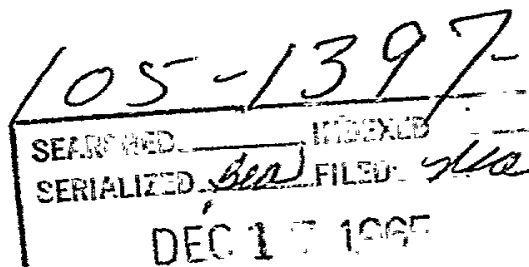
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Director, FBI (64-200-239)

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**COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES (CPP)  
IS - PHILIPPINES**

Re Manila letter 5/31/66; and Bulet to Paris 5/7/65 captioned, "ESPIONAGE AND FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE MATTERS".

**I. ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP**

The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), an illegal organization, is presently headed by a three-man body called the Secretariat or the Politburo. These three men are [redacted], HERNANDO ABAYA, and PEDRO TARUC, who represent peasant, labor, and intellectual groups. A Secretariat Staff of 14 members reports directly to the Secretariat. In the organizational structure, there is also a Central Committee under which the following bodies are organized:

Political Intelligence Bureau  
City Committee  
Intellectual Group  
Labor Group  
Student Group  
Provincial Committee  
People's Liberation Army

The foregoing bodies are further divided into groups, sections and cells. The total active membership of the party is still estimated at 2500 with perhaps 4,000 active sympathizers and a somewhat wider support base of 7,000. The principal activity centers in Manila where four groups--labor, student, intellectual, and city committee--are active.

The People's Liberation Army (HMB) is generally considered to be the military arm of the Communist Party. The main HMB area is Pampanga Province where active HMB members are estimated to number 68 with approximately 555 HMB cadres in the Angeles City area, neighboring Clark Air Base. In Central Luzon, the HMB has a mass base of 5,522, but it leans

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heavily on the support of some 310 sympathizers. Small bands also operate in remote areas where their arms and show of force convince the peasants and villagers that the HMB is still highly organized and equipped. The recognized Commander of the HMB is SUMULONG, who is under the leadership of PEDRO TARUC, HMB Chairman and member of the Secretariat, CPP.

The Chinese Bureau is a communist organization composed of Chinese Nationals who are permanent residents of the Philippines or temporary visitors. The Chinese Bureau (CB) refuses to be aligned with or under the control of the CPP. This independence from the CPP dates back to World War II when the CB formed its own armed unit to fight the Japanese occupation forces. Contact between the CPP and the CB is conducted by members of the Political Bureau, CPP, under direct supervision of the General Secretary. Any contact between the CB and the CPP is at the discretion of the CB. Numerous CPP members feel the party is "begging" the CB for financial assistance, which has been promised. In turn, the CPP has been asked to denounce the Communist Party of the Soviet Union as "Revisionist". Source feels there is definite contact between the CB and the Secretariat, CPP, at the present time, concerning financial matters.

## II. OBJECTIVES AND EFFECTIVENESS

While the ultimate objective of the CPP continues to be the establishment of a Communist government, some of the ways and means of attaining the objective have been changed or modified.

The several secondary objectives to the ultimate objective generally make up a blueprint for conquest of national power. In essence, the blueprint assumes the following steps.

Achievement of a socialist form of government which would eventually lead to the final objective of setting up a communist government.

Establishment of a "New Democracy".

The overthrow of the "imperialist-feudal domination" of the Philippines and the establishment of a "Filipinistic government".

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This blueprint indicates emphasis on a political struggle; but the CPP still believes in the use of "armed struggle" as the shortest route to the achievement of national political power.

Essentially, then the most logical first step is to create conditions favorable to a revolutionary crisis in the country which would signal the implementation of an armed revolution. The present CPP program of action involves the implementation of both subversive and insurgent activities. The subversion route includes intensification of recruitment, training, organization infiltration, agitation and propaganda; extensive use of united front tactics; establishment of extensive financing; and all-out election participation. The insurgency route includes a continuation of limited insurgent activities, and a buildup of military capabilities through recruitment, training, organization, procurement of military armament and equipment, and intensification of sabotage and espionage activities.

More significant than actual evidence of insurgent activities of the CPP is the presence of their five-year project which is a phased buildup of their insurgent capability terminating in the achievement of military goals at the end of five years.

Although it is very doubtful whether the CPP can attain their final objective within the time-table they have set, indications point to their having started the implementation of this project. Such a step could definitely cause an improvement over their present military capability.

In connection with CPP insurgent activities of the past, over 250 liquidations have been attributed to the CPP since 1960.

Equally disturbing is the fact that starting in 1964, more bands of HMB's have been reported in Central Luzon and the Southern Tagalog regions. Also where previously only small bands of 3 or 4 HMBs were sighted, in 1966 bigger bands of 15 or more were reported. This tends to indicate a growing boldness on the part of the HMB - a boldness that may have grown out of either an increased mass support or an increased capability for armed action against government forces.

Because of the insular nature of the Philippines that would render extremely difficult the successful sending of logistical aid from a foreign country for the CPP, the CPP has strived to solve their logistics problems with resources at hand. This was one of the main causes of the defeat of the CPP forces at the hands of government forces at the time they implemented the "armed struggle" during the early 1950s.

In areas where the CPP exercises a relatively greater influence (Central Luzon), the CPP has an organized collection schedule covering farm owners, fishermen, businessmen, lumbermen, etc. In addition, they have been reported to have organized fund-raising ventures as benefits, raffles and even gambling activities. In some cities and in Central Luzon, the CPP has also been reported to have engaged in business activities as transportation, sari-sari store chains and other commercial activities. Also, some reports indicate CPP involvement in smuggling ventures. Lastly, there are indications that the CPP is presently receiving undetermined amounts of financial aid from the Chinese Communist Party in the Philippines.

The CPP has been clandestinely procuring loose firearms from civilians and firearms and ammunition from US bases and Philippine military installations. To give an idea of the extent of the CPP gains in their subversive activities, the following concrete examples are presented as the sum total effect of the CPP successes in recruitment, infiltration, propaganda and creation of front organization activities:

Youth and Students - The CPP has successfully infiltrated 9, attained influence in 15, and gained control of 18, organizations. In addition, the CPP has successfully caused the creation of the Kabataang Makabayan (KM), which is suspected to be the national front organization for youth/students

Labor - The CPP has successfully infiltrated several unions and federations, and attained influence/control in 68 unions and 19 federations. In addition, the CPP has successfully caused the creation of the Lapiang Manggagawa (LM), which is suspected to be the national front organization for Labor.

Peasants - The CPP has successfully infiltrated and controlled most of the peasant organizations in Central Luzon,

Laguna and Quezon. In addition, it has successfully caused the creation of the Malayang Samahang Magasasaka (Masaka) and the Philippine Council of Agrarian Workers (PCAW) (which has a reported membership strength of 1.5 million), which are considered national front organizations for the peasant groups.

Civic-Socio Groups - The CPP has successfully organized the Kapisanan Tinig Ng Bayan (KTNB), which is considered the National front organization for civic-socio group and intellectuals.

In addition to the above national front organizations, the CPP has successfully organized the Allied Committee To Improve Our Nation (ACTION), which is suspected to be the rallying organization for the unemployed and counts on representation from youth/students, intellectuals, labor, peasants, and other civic-socio organizations.

### III. POTENTIAL

Figures available show that the CPP has increased its membership strength. Although this increase in strength does not place them in a footing to cause internal disorder equal to that in 1950, this increase may serve as a warning that the party has recovered from its past debacle and has achieved a capability to widen its base of operation and slowly strive to attain its goals.

The CPP has achieved relatively significant gains in their infiltration activities. Their gains are greatest among the Labor, Youth/Student and Peasant Groups, and which run true to Communist dogmas that these groups represent the main forces of the Communist revolution. These groups have been most active in recent demonstrations, both against the government and against the main target of their agitation-propaganda activities, the United States.

Among the intellectuals, religious and other groups, and in the government, their gains are considered limited and relatively insignificant. However, it is in the creation of Front Organizations that the CPP has made their biggest gains. This is mainly attributable to their successfully infiltrating several legitimate organizations and eventually gaining influence or control of said organizations. The CPP has

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successfully effected the organization of one national front organization for the Youth/Student group, two national front organizations for the Peasant Group, and one front organization for the unemployed and other groups. The constitution of these front organizations reveals an ambitious plan to fully saturate the entire country with a grass-root type of organization. Likewise, these front organizations have not only been on the forefront of, but also successfully served as effective rallying points for demonstrations directed by the CPP. They have also served to effect a wider coverage for communist propaganda and agitation activities.

Although the CPP has directed all-out participation in local and national elections, their successes are relatively insignificant taken in the light of successfully catapulting their own or selected candidates into elective position. In Central Luzon, where their greatest influence is felt, they have only successfully infiltrated the lower levels of government as barrio councils, and caused the election of a few mayors. As seen, therefore, in this light, their successes are considered relatively insignificant and not alarming.

Concern has been voiced in Intelligence circles, however, about the substantial influence that several Party members and sympathizers apparently have within the Marcos Administration. These include such individuals as [REDACTED]

The Marcos Administration is currently working actively to establish trade and cultural ties with the Soviet Union, looking toward formal diplomatic relations as soon as possible. While this is not an indication that the Philippine Government is favoring communism, it is an indication the Government is working toward a condition within the country which will permit greater liaison between the CPP and the parties of the communist nations. Greater interest in improved relations with Communist China appears evident by the exchange of visitors, Congressmen, and students between the Philippines and Communist China.

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In American Embassy circles it is believed that the Marcos Administration is the last hope that democracy as we know it will prevail in the Philippines if Marcos fails to stop the cancer which is undermining the nation's economy and political system, namely, smuggling of products and Chinese, serious, crippling corruption which pervades the Government and police, and the absence of peace and order. If the current trend continues unchecked, a dissatisfied electorate or a dissatisfied populace will throw its weight in the direction of any change which promises an improvement. The CPP is actively working and waiting for just such a public state of impatience to implement their objectives. As of the present, political organizations in the Philippines do not offer a radical or definite change from the status quo. Any political change considered necessary would practically and of necessity be in the direction of a "new democracy" or socialism, a prelude to a communist form of government.

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Date **12/8/66**

RE: **COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES  
IS - PHILIPPINES**

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COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES (CPP)  
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"ESPIONAGE AND FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE MATTERS".

I. ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP

A Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) Central Committee conference, previously scheduled to be held before the end of March, 1967, was postponed. The conference is to be re-scheduled for September or October, 1967. In the interim the CPP Secretariat Staff decided to form a temporary Political Bureau to act as the official CPP executive body until the Central Committee can elect a Political Bureau. On 3/27/67 a meeting of the CPP Secretariat Staff was held to select the temporary Political Bureau members. Temporary Political Bureau members were selected as follows:

With the selection of a temporary Political Bureau, the Secretariat Staff will no longer exist. The body formerly known as the Secretariat Staff will now be known as the Political Bureau. Additionally, the former CPP Secretariat,

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which was composed of three men independent of the Secretariat Staff, is no longer recognized. The body now known as the Secretariat consists of the General Secretary, the Organizational Dept. Chairman and the Educational Dept. Chairman, all of whom are members of the Political Bureau. Under the new organization, the Finance, Communications and Trade Union Departments are under the Organizational Dept., and the Political Intelligence Bureau is under the General Secretary.

## II. OBJECTIVES AND EFFECTIVENESS

The CPP continues to outwardly foster a legal or parliamentary line in trying to achieve its objectives, infiltrating government and labor organizations, and establishing numerous front organizations to influence the masses. The goal, of course, is the setting up of a communist government in the Philippines and to obtain the necessary broad base for this undertaking, the CPP is banking a great deal on the front groups, in particular, youth groups. The creation of the Kabataang Makabayan (KM), youth arm of the communist-controlled Labor Party, in 1964 is an example of the Party's active work among youth and student groups. It is interesting to note, however, that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and is supporting China in the dispute between the Soviet Union and China. This is in opposition to the neutral stand of the CPP. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] be replaced, and has refused to place himself under the control of the CPP leadership. He also is reportedly going to Japan in May, 1967 at the request of the Socialist Party of Japan, but the real reason for the trip is said to be to report to the Chinese Communists.

## III. POTENTIAL

The Party currently is undergoing leadership reorganization as well as a certain amount of strife between certain segments with respect to the ideological split. It however, could be on the verge of excellent growth. The economic situation in the Philippines is certainly not improving, rice prices are going up, employment is in short supply, and wages are not keeping pace with price increases. This always provides fertile soil for sowing dissatisfaction. Additionally,

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the Philippines is considering trade with Iron Curtain and Bamboo Curtain countries. This trade is to be on a government-to-government basis and because of this, diplomatic recognition might follow. Any such trade or interchange cannot but help the CPP.

The CPP has inaugurated youth development by virtue of its front groups, and is sending small units throughout the provinces to create support for its aims.

The HMB, allegedly the para-military arm of the CPP, is reportedly becoming stronger and expanding its influence into hitherto untouched areas. There does not, however, seem to be a complete agreement on objectives and procedures between the HUK leadership and the Party leadership.

Over-all, the possibility of the CPP becoming more powerful rather than declining, seems the more likely.

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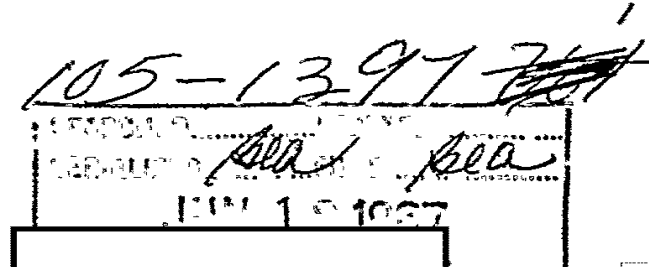
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RE:

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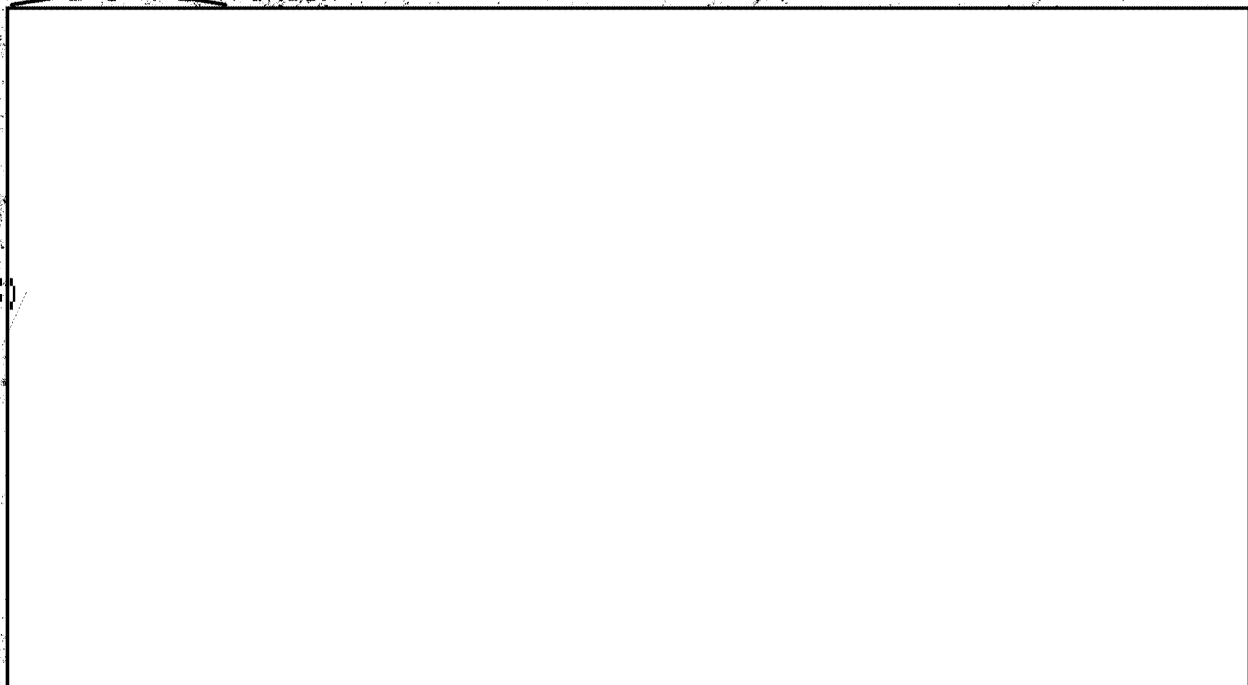
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